# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1271
ANSWERED ON:27.10.2008
SPECIAL PACKAGE FOR TEA LABOURERS WORKERS
Sonowal Shri Sarbananda

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government has decided to offer any special package for all round development of tea labourers/workers for their education, health and pure drinking water facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has issued directives to States for raising minimum wages of the tea labourers/workers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a) & (b): As per the information provided by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, there is no proposal for a special package for tea labourers/workers for their education, health and pure drinking water facilities.

(c) & (d): Under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, both Central & State Governments are the appropriate Governments to fix/revise minimum rates of wages for scheduled employments in Central and State sphere respectively.Since tea workers fall under the purview of State sphere, the State Governments,as appropriate Governments to fix/revise minimum rates of wages for such scheduled employments.Further, in order to have a uniform wage structure and to reduce the disparity in minimum wages across the country,a concept of National Floor Level Minimum Wage was mooted on the basis of the recommendations of the National Commission on Rural Labour (NCRL) in 1991.On the basis of increase in the Consumer Price Index,the Central Government has recently revised the National Floor Level Minimum Wages from Rs. 66/- to Rs. 80/- per day with effect from 01.09.2007.It is further stated that National Floor Level Minimum Wage,is a non-statutory measure to promote upward revision of minimum wages in different in States/Union Territories.